



Great Start Readiness Program Evaluation

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Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) History

- Michigan's state-funded "Prekindergarten" program for 4-year-old children "at-risk" of school failure
- In 27th year of state funding
 - First year: 1985-86 with \$1M; served 700 children
 - When longitudinal study began: 1995-96, \$63.1M to serve 21,000 children
 - Current year: 2011-12, \$104M; 30,000+ "slots"
- School districts and local agencies provide programs
- High-quality standards and requirements

GSRP Evaluation Grant

- 1994-95: \$100,000 planning grant awarded April 1995
- Increased to \$300,000 in subsequent years
- Competitive application
- Repeated multi-year competitive grant cycles
- Additional support from Kellogg Foundation for grantee training
- Statewide and local evaluation requirements in legislation

GSRP Evaluation Activities

- Development of instrumentation and reporting
- Annual data collection on participant children
- Program quality/improvement support
- Periodic reports on staff qualifications and compensation
- Report on Full-Day Preschool Program Comparison Study (2004)
- Multi-state evaluation at kindergarten entry (2005)
- Regional studies at kindergarten entry (urban, rural, in progress)
- Longitudinal Evaluation (1995-2011)

GSRP Longitudinal Evaluation

- 1995-96 study children attended GSRP
- 1996-97 target and control group identified in kindergarten
- 2008-09 “on-time” high school graduation
- 2009-10 graduation with one-time grade retention
- 2010-11 graduation with two retentions

Previous Longitudinal Study Reports

- 1997: *Early Returns: First Year Report of the Michigan School Readiness Program Evaluation*
- 2000: *Points of Light: Third Year Report of the Michigan School Readiness Program Evaluation*
- 2002: *Effects Five Years Later: the Michigan School Readiness Program Evaluation Through Age 10* (January 2002)
 - Through 4th grade, including MEAP scores and retention findings
 - <http://www.highscope.org/file/Research/Effects%205%20Years%20Later.pdf>
- 2007: *Findings from the Michigan School Readiness Program 6 to 8 Follow Up Study*
 - Through Middle School, including subgroup differences
 - <http://www.highscope.org/file/Research/6%20-%208%20follow%20up%20report%20FINAL%2010-9-07.pdf>

Michigan Great Start Readiness Program Evaluation 2012

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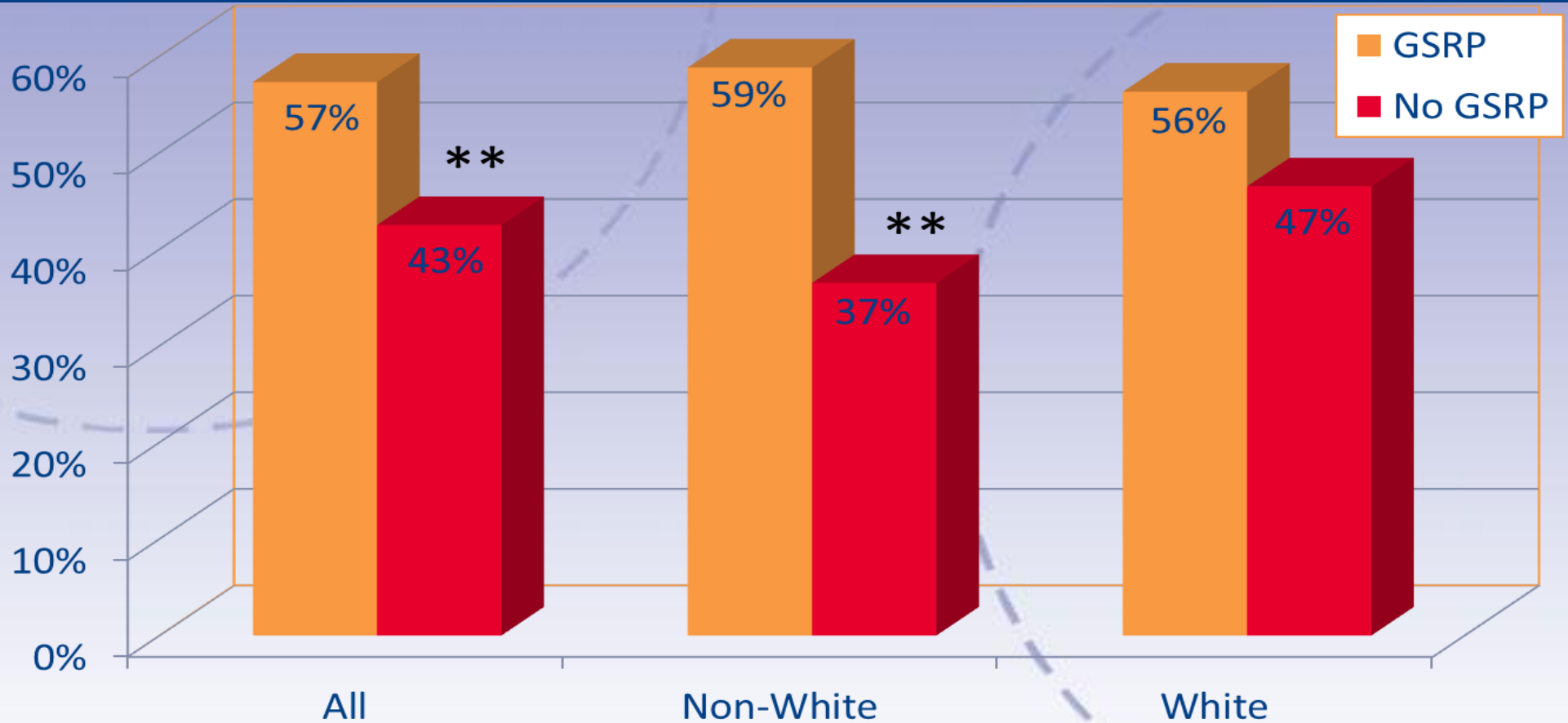
A study of 595 low-income children entering kindergarten in 1996

- In six Michigan school districts – Detroit, Grand Rapids, Grayling, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, and Port Huron.
- 338 children attended GSRP.
- 257 children did not attend a preschool program but had family incomes under \$30,300, low enough to qualify for GSRP.

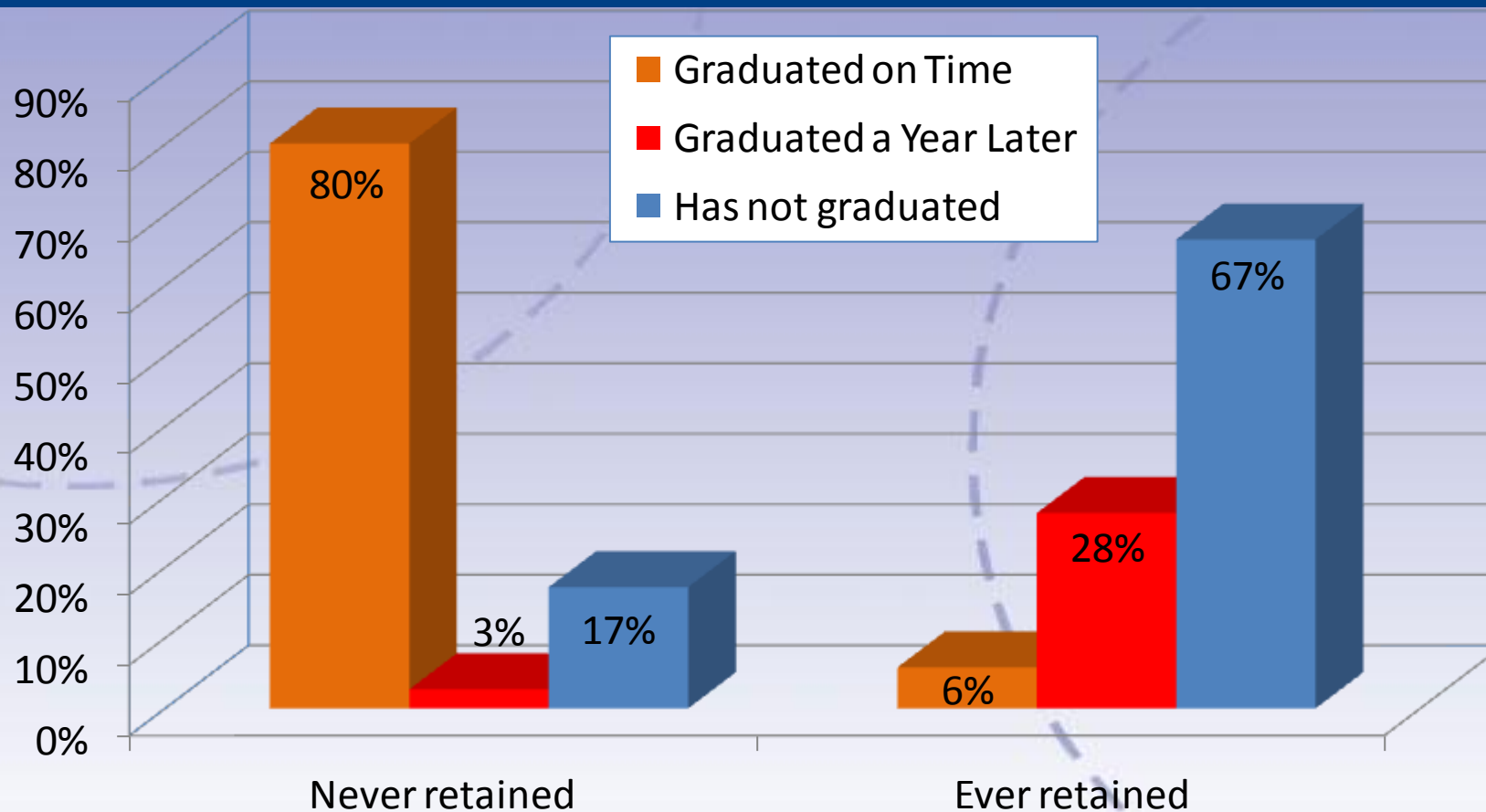
Similar Group Backgrounds

Characteristic	GSRP	No GSRP
Age at kindergarten entry	5.3	5.3
% female	51%	51%
Fathers in home	62%	61%
Persons in household	4.5	4.7
Mothers' years of schooling	12.1	12.0
Fathers' years of schooling	12.1	11.7
Average annual income	\$17,882	\$18,022

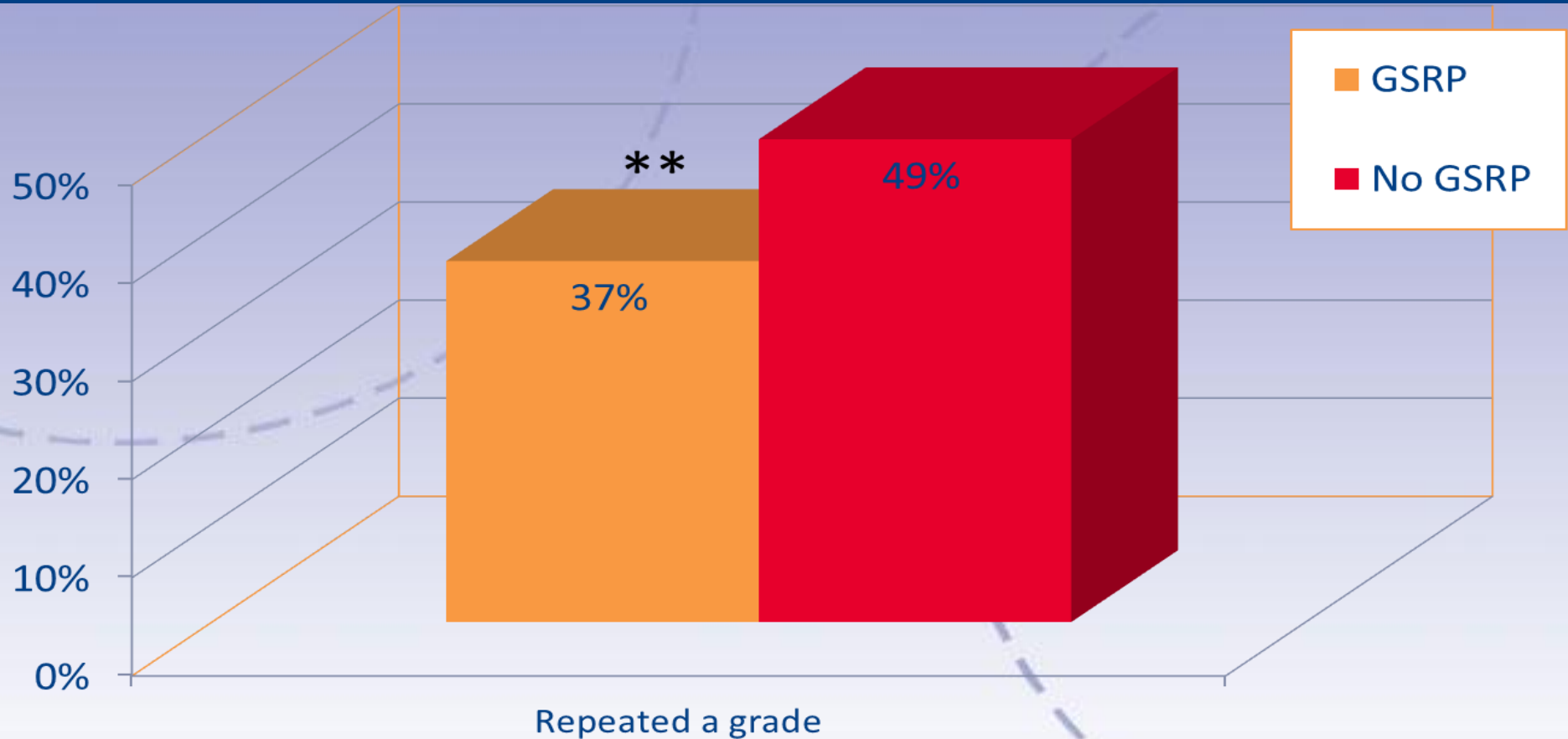
High School Graduation on Time



Graduation Timing by Grade Retention



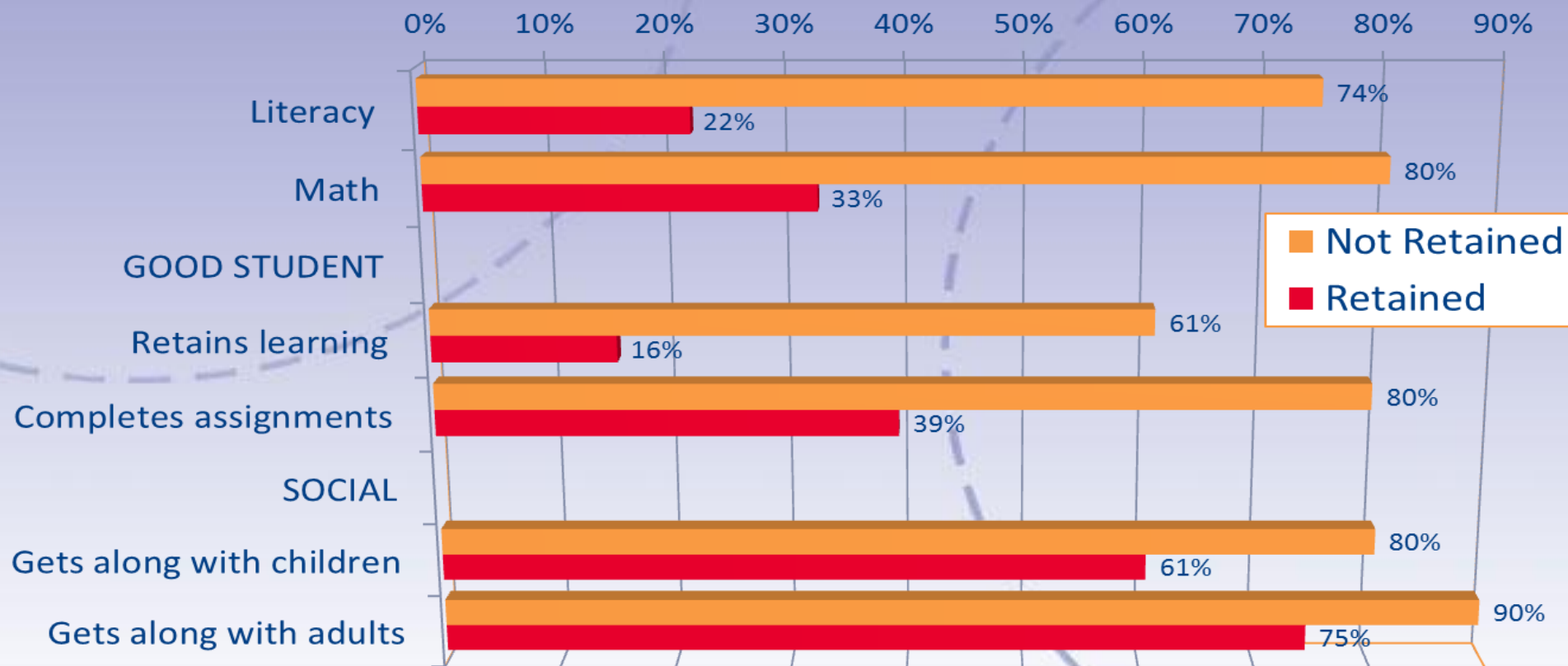
Grade Retention by Grade 12 by GSRP Status



Multiple Grade Retention by Race and GSRP Status



Kindergarten Teacher Ratings of Retained Students and Non-Retained Students





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